



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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New Tree Brochure Provides Valuable Information on Urban Forestry

A new brochure containing tips for successful tree planting and maintenance has been created for Fairfax County residents by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The two-sided card also includes phone numbers and web addresses to find quick answers for questions and issues regarding trees, seeds, pests, ordinances and removal of leaves and yard waste.

The trees brochure is part of a series of Fairfax County Stewardship publications, which were designed to educate and inspire people about the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's 20-year environmental vision. According to American Forests, a reforestation advocacy group, trees offer an economical, long-term solution to many of the environmental problems facing urban areas today. Planting trees helps reduce air pollution by removing greenhouse gases. Their roots filter contaminants from water runoff and slow soil erosion and trees create habitat for wildlife. Trees can also be planted as monuments to honor loved ones and help improve the overall appearance of urban landscapes.

Fairfax County is home to a number of famous trees. Large champion trees and trees planted by one of America's most famous leaders draw people's interest from around the country. An 85' tall Copper Beech Tree, Virginia's largest example of the species, has been growing on the grounds of Fairfax Christian Church for over 200 years. This state champion's trunk boasts a circumference of 20 feet! Huntley Meadows Park is home to a county champion, a Swamp Chestnut Oak. Two rare Canadian Hemlocks can be found at Scotts Run Nature Preserve in McLean. Of the hundreds of trees planted at Mount Vernon by George Washington in the late 1700's, only 13 remain standing. Two memorable examples include a 165' Pecan tree, which towers over the estate and a 140' White Ash with a nearly 16' diameter trunk.

As the population of Fairfax County continues to grow, planting trees will be an important tool for ensuring our air and water remains clean, and for keeping our urban landscapes cool and inviting. Brochures are available at Fairfax County Park Authority sites, including nature centers, RECenters, golf courses and at Green Spring Gardens. For more information about the benefits of trees contact the Resource Management Division office at (703) 324-8674 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/park/stewardship.

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703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-MAIL: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.